

REMARKS

The subject Rule 312 Amendment is being filed to make a minor change to independent Claim 1.

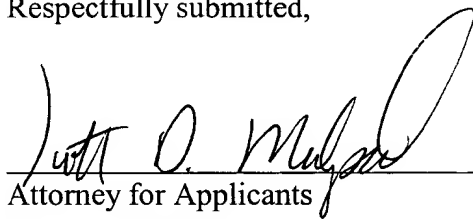
As will be appreciated, in Claim 1, line 8, "slanted" has been changed to --arranged--.

Applicants wish to thank the Examiner for the courtesy extended toward their representative during the telephone conversation of June 24, 2004. The subject change was discussed during the telephone conversation and the Examiner indicated that amending Claim 1 in this manner would be acceptable.

Accordingly, consideration and allowance of the subject Rule 312 Amendment is respectfully requested.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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